

Graduation Matters Montana – Challenge Fund 2013

The Montana Office of Public Instruction received a grant the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation to establish the Graduation Matters Montana (GMM) Challenge Fund. Grants of up to \$10,000 are available to Montana public schools for existing GMM initiatives and for new GMM initiatives through a competitive application process. Before you complete this application, please watch this brief webinar. For further assistance, please contact Abby Coburn, OPI at 444-5643 or graduationmatters@mt.gov. Applications are due by Feb 26, 2013. Award determinations will be announced March 26, 2013.

Please provide the following information.

Name:

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Position:

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School:

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Email:

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Phone:

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I am applying for funds as:

☐ existing GMM community

☐ a new GMM initiative

I have watched the GMM webinar. (Must watch the webinar and check yes prior to completing this application.)

☐ Yes

☐ No

1. Program Need: Please complete the following tables to indicate dropout count and dropout rate for the past three years. You can add additional schools if need be. If you need assistance with locating this data, you can contact Andy Boehm, OPI at 444-0375 or a Boehm@mt.gov (and mention you need it for the GMM Challenge Fund application).

2011-12

School

Dropout Count

Dropout Rate

2010-11

School

Dropout Count

Dropout Rate

2009-10

School

Dropout Count

Dropout Rate

Do you have additional schools you want to add?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2011-12

School

Dropout Count

Dropout Rate

2010-11

School

Dropout Count

Dropout Rate

2009-10

School

Dropout Count

Dropout Rate

Do you have additional schools you want to add?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2011-12

School

Dropout Count

Dropout Rate

2010-11

School

Dropout Count

Dropout Rate

2009-10

School

Dropout Count

Dropout Rate

Do you have additional schools you want to add?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2011-12

School

Dropout Count

Dropout Rate

2010-11

School

Dropout Count

Dropout Rate

2009-10

School

Dropout Count

Dropout Rate

2. Data Observations What key insights do you derive from looking at your data? Please address: (1) What is the scope of the dropout problem? (2) Which students are at high risk of dropping out? (3) Why do individual students drop out? (4) When are students at risk of dropping out? (5) What key insights do you derive from looking at your data, and how is that influencing the focus of your GMM plan? (500 words or less)

3. Additional Information - Optional Is there anything else you'd like to add regarding program need? (500 words or less)

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4a. GMM Goal What are your GMM goals for this grant? The first two goals must be addressed; you can add additional ones if you would like.

Reduce the number of students who drop out by (identify the number or % of students and the target date)

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Decrease the number of students who are credit deficient by (identify the number or % of students and the target date)

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Please add additional goals as you see fit. Possible goals may include: Increase by ____ (number and/or rate) students who enroll in college upon graduation; build ____ new community/business/school partnerships; have ____ students take the I Pledge to Graduate; institute/strengthen the following interventions: (advisories, attendance monitoring/follow-up, early warning systems)

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4b: If you received GMM Challenge Grant funding last year, please describe specific outcomes you achieved in 2012.

How many students did not drop out this year as a result of your GMM work?

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How many students decreased their credit deficiencies as a result of your GMM work?

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How many community/business/school partnerships did you develop?

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How many students took the I Pledge to Graduate?

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4c. If you are an existing GMM initiative, what new programs/intervention/activities were launched as a result of your GMM work?

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4d. If you are an existing GMM initiative, what new critical insights or learning did you gain this past year related to your GMM work?

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5a. The following activities are eligible for GMM funding. Please indicate which activities you plan to use GMM funds to support, and provide budget allocations.

	Yes	No	Amount
Stipends for current staff and/or existing school team to convene GMM partners	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Stipends for current staff and/or existing school team to coordinate GMM activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Stipend/contract for external facilitator to convene school/community businesses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Program expenditures to promote GMM initiative	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Program expenditures to promote I Pledge to Graduate event(s)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Program expenditures for ongoing professional development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5b. Other If you plan to use funds for activities other than those listed in 5a, please describe them here, and the amount you plan to allocate for the activity.

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5c. Total amount Requested:

Total

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6. Please describe how you plan to use the funds for the activities identified above. (1000 words or less)

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7. Timeline Please provide a timeline of activities, using this format.
If you already have a timeline developed, please email it to graduationmatters@mt.gov:

	1st Quarter (Mar - May)	2nd Quarter (June - Aug)	3rd Quarter (Sept - Nov)	4th Quarter (Dec - Feb)
Team
Data
Plan
Promotion
Other

School Board Chairperson

Middle School/High School Principal(s)

Student Representative(s)

☐ Yes

☐ No

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10. GMM Team If you already have a GMM Team established, please email its membership with organizational affiliation to graduationmatters@mt.gov